

CLAIMS

1. A method for scheduling an appointment, the method comprising:
 - (a) receiving appointment availability information from a second party;
 - (b) receiving an appointment request from a first party;
 - (c) comparing the request to the availability information;
 - (d) automatically scheduling the appointment if the request is for an available time based on the availability information; and
 - (e) automatically updating the appointment availability information to reflect the appointment.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising verifying the appointment with the first party.
3. The method of claim 1, further comprising automatically prompting another request if the request is for an unavailable time based on the availability information.
4. The method of claim 1, further comprising requesting contact information from the first party.
5. The method of claim 4, further comprising automatically contacting the first party if there is any change in the appointment.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the first party is a passenger, the second party is an airline, and the appointment is an airline reservation.

7. The method of claim 6, further comprising receiving third party contact information, wherein the third party transports the first party to a departure airport or from a destination airport.
8. The method of claim 7, further comprising automatically sending information to the third party via email, fax or IVR.
9. The method of claim 1, wherein the first party is a patron, the second party is a restaurant, and the appointment is a dining reservation.
10. The method of claim 1, wherein the first party is a patient, the second party is a practitioner, and the appointment is an office appointment.
11. The method of claim 10, wherein the practitioner is a doctor.
12. The method of claim 10, wherein the practitioner is a dentist.
13. The method of claim 1, wherein the first party is a school, the second party is a teacher, and the appointment is a class at the school.
14. The method of claim 1, wherein the first party is a teacher, the second party is a school, and the appointment is a class at the school.
15. The method of claim 1, further comprising automatically sending appointment information to the first party via email, fax, or IVR.
16. The method of claim 1, further comprising automatically sending information to the second party via email, fax, or IVR.

17. An apparatus for scheduling an appointment, the apparatus comprising an appointment server containing instructions for:

- (a) receiving appointment availability information from a second party;
- (b) receiving an appointment request from a first party;
- (c) comparing the request to the availability information;
- (d) automatically scheduling the appointment if the request is for an available time based on the availability information; and
- (e) automatically updating the appointment availability information to reflect the appointment.

18. The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the server contains instructions for verifying the appointment with the first party.

19. The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the server contains instructions for automatically prompting another request if the request is for an unavailable time based on the availability information.

20. The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the server contains instructions for requesting contact information from the first party.

21. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the server contains instructions for automatically contacting the first party if there is any change in the appointment.

32. The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the server contains instructions for automatically sending information to the second party via email, fax, or IVR.